CANADIAN Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

Vol. 10, No. 36 TORONTO, SEPTEMBER 5, 1945 $2.00 Per Annum

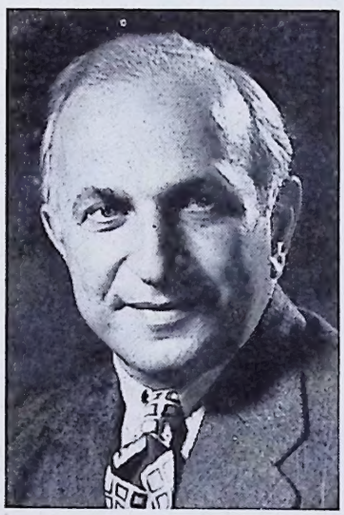
Allied Co-Op Broadens Scope

New Indie Setup Into All Phases Of Modern Theatre Operation

Canada's newest booking and buying co-operative organization, Allied Co-Operative Theatres, formation of which was announced last week, will broaden its activities to include service in every established phase of theatre operation. News of its expanded scope was made public by William Weiss, managing director, who assumed charge September 1st, on which date his resignation from a supervisory post with Odeon Theatres of Canada became effective. Head booker of Allied Co-Op and assistant to Weiss will be Joe Meyers, also formerly of Odeon Theatres.

Besides the buying of film

(Continued on Page 2)



WILLIAM WEISS

Popular Bill Weiss is managing director of the newly-formed Allied Co-Operative Theatres, an Independent enterprise embracing more than 25 Ontario theatres and aimed at national representation. Weiss has resigned as supervisor of theatres in central and northern Ontario for Odeon Theatres.

Toronto House

Snowden Theatres is planning a de luxe suburban house in York Township, on Bloor, west of Jane street. Famous Players also intends to build in the area.

Drive-In Shows For Ontario

Sam Fingold, Ralph Dale and Dick Main, the combination which operates Theatre Amusements Company, Ontario circuit, intend building a number of Drive-In theatres in eastern Canada.

Locations have been decided on for five units; three in Toronto

(Continued on Page 2)

R. Pearson, Censor For Alta., Quits

Robert Pearson, chief motion picture censor for the Alberta government for the past 17 years, has retired from his post on superannuation. No successor may be named for sometime but the government is giving careful attention to the appoint-

(Continued on Page 6)

Syd to California

Sydney Goldstone, who sold his interest in the Centre, Peterborough, Ontario, to Hy Freedman and company, is moving to California for permanent residence.

Hilly Yuden, formerly manager of the Circle, Toronto, is now pilot of the Centre.

Max Belkin Salesman For WB in Calgary

Max Belkin, who has just been released by the RCAF, has been appointed salesman at the Calgary branch of Warner Bros. Pictures by Haskell M. Masters, district manager of the company. He was formerly booker at this exchange.

Belkin has been in the service snce 1942 and is a veteran of tours over Germany and Italy. Previous to his honorary discharge he was attached to the Transport Command.

Strike Action OKd By Local 173, IA

Local 173, IATSE, which governs projectionists in the Toronto area, voted to empower its executive with authority to call a strike against circuits and Indies with which agreements regarding wages and conditions can not be reached.

Need for action by the committee is considered unlikely, although union and exhibitor negotiators are plenty far apart.

Hoffman Leaves Perkins Co'y

Leonard F. Hoffman, vice-president and Toronto manager of Perkins Electric Company Limited, one of the most popular members of the trade in Ontario, has resigned after 26 years with that firm. He intends to examine the possibility of entering busi-

(Continued on Page 2)

Real Fire Danger At NFB Studios

Condemning working conditions at National Film Board Headquarters, Ottawa, from the standpoint of fire hazard, after a fire occurred there recently, John Grierson, film commissioner, stated that "a very grave responsibility rests on those who

(Continued on Page 6)

Bill Weiss

BILL WEISS has become an important name in the trade news with the announcement that he is administrative head of what, in effect, is a leading Canadian circuit from a standpoint of numbers. The 25 theatres in the Allied Co-Operative Theatres will be used as a single purchasing power, and buying at once for so many units with individually varied needs will take experience and study from the person taxed with the task. That person must also be a prime diplomat, considering that the persons he represents have been doing their own buying and have prided themselves on their shrewdness.

Well, Bill has been active in several phases of exhibition and distribution here and in the United States so he brings a considerable amount of know-how to the job. As for the personal end of things, he enjoys much popularity on both sides of the border. It's saying something for him when Independents are willing to trust their economic welfare to a circuit executive—which is what Bill was until he quit Odeon for this task. His assumption of the Allied Co-Op's leading post will add much to its chances of success.

Bill, let us testify here impartially, is one of the few men holding important posts who hasn't developed a manner of subtle superiority which keeps smaller fry from exchanging mere pleasantries. He has a friendly face that is youthful enough yet to be at odds with the greyish thatch that tops it.

With Odeon over two years,

(Continued on Page 11)

On Stage Everybody Youth . . . charm . . . life and laughter on the loose with Jack Oakie, Peggy Ryan, Johnny Coy and the ten stars of the blue network radio show hit. This picture has demonstrated unprecedented boxoffice power wherever shown. Distributed by EMPIRE-UNIVERSAL.

JOE MEYERS

He has resigned from Odeon Theatres booking staff to become chief booker of Allied Co-Operative Theatres and assistant to William Weiss.

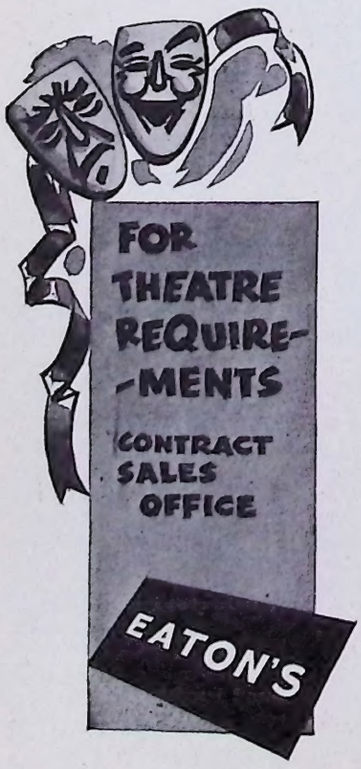
Drive-In Shows For Ontario

(Continued from Page 1)

and one each in Ottawa and Montreal. Toronto sites are on the Kingston Road, North Yonge Street, and Lakeshore districts.

It is understood that USA interests are involved in the deal and construction will begin when permits are issued.

Each theatre will seat 800 persons.



Allied Co-Operative Into All Phases

(Continued from Page 1)

Allied Co-Operative Theatres intends, as soon as possible, to:

Operate an advertising and exploitation service,

Form a buying service for theatre supplies, securing the benefit of discounts now afforded circuits,

Establish a theatre maintenance and repair service,

Retain a theatre consultant in connection with projection and sound equipment, heating and cooling units, theatre remodelling, new and improved artistic and mechanical innovations,

Form a central theatre employment service for managers, cashiers, doormen, ushers and cleaners,

Form an insurance and real estate department,

Form a legal advisory department,

Book vaudeville units, stage attractions and name bands,

Form a radio advertising service,

Establish a screening room for exhibitors,

Establish a permanent public relations committee.

Freedman Prexy

Although Allied Co-Op intends to operate on a Dominion scale, the 25 theatres forming its nucleus are located in Ontario and most of them are operated by members of the Independent Motion Picture Exhibitors of Ontario, an affiliate of the National Council of Independent Exhibitors of Canada.

Ben Freedman, president of the first-mentioned association and operator of the Royal Theatre, Long Branch, occupies the same post in the new setup. Other officers are Bruce McLeod, vice-president, Kitchener; Garson Soloway, secretary, Toronto; and Herman Bennett, treasurer, Toronto. Besides those mentioned directors are Ben Okun, Biltmore Theatres, which operates in Oshawa and Kingston; Max Starkman, Toronto; Harry Romberg, Toronto; and Harry Lester, Toronto.

Operation was begun in offices at 112 Bond Street, Toronto, but it is understood that new and larger quarters are being sought.

Benefits of Co-Op

Allied Co-Operative Theatres was formed, according to a statement, "for buying film as group; for the Independent exhibitor to meet fairly the needs and requirements of each theatre in respect of its peculiar position in its zone and community; also in respect and support of the needs of all Independent exhibitors."

In a statement Ben Freedman, president, said:

"We have formed Allied Co-Operative because there is a need for individual theatre ownership. We expect that all Independent Ontario theatres will band together and establish unity amongst themselves as protection against their absorption into the chain field.

"We expect to establish strength through trading of values that each individual theatre has, and support ideas of each one that will benefit the individual and enhance his value to the producer and distributor.

"This strength and unity will enable us to retain our independence, and will afford us the opportunity we have never had before as individuals to formulate policy in respect to labor, legislation, conciliation, public education and general communal welfare.

"It will afford us the opportunity to rectify and improve peculiar conditions in our indstry.

"We insist that Allied Co-Operative shall not only apply to the individual theatre owners but shall be co-operative in its relationship to all branches of the industry."

PRC's Eastern Sales Meeting in Toronto

PRC sales staff in Eastern Canada recently held a conference in Toronto on the 1945-46 product. Harry Allen and Dave Griesdorf, who earlier returned from the PRC sales meeting in Chicago, were hosts.

Those who attended the Toronto meeting were: Johnny March of the Saint John, N.B. office; Gerry Chernoff and Sydney Singer from the Montreal branch; and the following members of the Toronto staff: Lloyd Mills, manager; Aaron Wolfe, salesman; Dave Brandston, booker, and Jack Gertzbein, assistant booker.

Film Weekly

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BEN FREEDMAN

Long Branch, Ontario, exhibitor who is president of Allied Co-Operative Theatres.

Hoffman Leaves Perkins Co'y

(Continued from Page 1)

ness for himself, though not necessarily within the industry.

He has been succeeded by R. V. Shale, who started with the Toronto branch 23 years ago.

Len is a veteran, having entered the motion picture industry in 1906 as a projectionist. He became a road operator and installer for Edison Talking Pictures and Kinemacolor. It was during this period that he was one of the organizers of what is now the New York Local of the IATSE.

Hoffman came to Montreal from New York, where he was born, in 1916 to enlist with Canadian Expeditionary Force and went overseas with the 38th Battalion. On his return to civil life in 1919 he joined Perkins Electric and was made Toronto manager in 1924.

An ardent golfer and baseball fan, Len Hoffman enjoys the friendship of everyone in the Toronto area and it is hoped that he will stay in the industry.

Movie Biz Thesis Wins College Prize

A 50,000 word thesis on "The Motion Picture Industry," submitted by George J. Forhan, Jr., son of George Forhan, manager of the Belle Theatre, Belleville, Ontario, was the winner of the Dr. Connell prize at the graduation exercises at Albert College, Belleville.

The thesis, suitably illustrated, is to be retained in the library of the college.

THE PICK OF THE PICTURES

Canadian Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

REVIEWS INFORMATION RATINGS

Vol. 10, No. 36 REVIEWS FROM FILM DAILY, NEW YORK $2.00 Per Annum

The Corn Is Green

with Bette Davis

Warner Bros. 114 Mins.

STRONGLY DRAMATIC ENTERTAINMENT SURE BO BET; DAVIS FANS WILL REJOICE.

Supercharged with drama, "The Corn is Green" is vibrant entertainment that provides Bette Davis with a role that enables her to bring rejoicing to the hearts of her admirers. The intenseness of the star's performance sets the mood of the picture, to the delight of those who revel in the strongly dramatic. The actress has made a showy job of the part that Ethel Barrymore played in the Herman Shumlin production of the Emlyn Williams drama on Broadway.

The story of the high-spirited woman's campaign to raise the educational level of a Welsh mining community has bite and substance and a rich atmospheric quality that leaves a strong impression. Under the steady and expert directorial hand of Irving Rapper the film develops an emotional force that will be appreciated by the ladies in particular.

Miss Davis commands the attention at all times as she wages war against ignorance. Her prize achievement is the making of John Dall, a young miner, into a scholar who qualifies for Oxford. Some of the best dramatic moments evolve from her attempt to prevent Joan Lorring, a little hussy, from jeopardizing Dall's brilliant future.

The film is marked by an abundance of good acting. Dall and Miss Lorring score solidly in their first screen appearances, often taking the play away from the star. Nigel Bruce, as the village squire who fights Miss Davis only to approve of her work later, and Rosalind Ivan, as Miss Lorring's mother, supply the film's only light moments.

CAST: Bette Davis, Nigel Bruce, John Dall, Joan Lorring, Rhys Williams, Rosalind Ivan, Mildred Dunnock, Arthur Shields, Gwenyth Hughes, Thomas Louden, Billy Roy, Brandon Hurst, Tony Ellis, Elliott Dare, Leslie Vincent, Robert Cherry, Ralph Cathey, Jock Watt, Gene Ross, Robert Regent, Jack Owen.

CREDITS: Producer, Jack Chertok; Director, Irving Rapper; Screenplay, Casey Robinson, Frank Cavett; Based on play by Emlyn Williams.

DIRECTION, Fine. PHOTOGRAPHY, Fine.

Theatre Changes

Roger Lalonde, formerly with the Monogram exchange, Montreal, has acquired the Colonial Theatre, Plessisville, Quebec, from A. Veilleux.

Eve Knew Her Apples

with Ann Miller, William Wright

Columbia 64 Mins.

SHADES OF "IT HAPPENED ONE NIGHT" ARE LIFTED TO REVEAL A PLEASING PROGRAMMER.

Leaning on the formula of one of the most popular re-issues moviedom has been milking, Columbia presents a low budget relative whose introduction to any screen audience should find a satisfactory reception.

Ann Miller, sans expected dance routines, does well by her singing-heroine role which is fortified with a couple of good tunes. William Wright also gives a creditable performance and is well-teamed with Miss Miller. Will Jason's direction of the comedy situations is handled to good advantage.

This one has Ann eluding her pres agent and manager for a much needed vacation from her theatrical career by hiding in the back of news reporter Wright's car. Wright believes he is shielding an escaped murderess until he discovers he is in love with her and that she happens to be a radio singer for whom a producer has posted a $5,000 reward for her safe return. Forced to spend a night on a haystack, Ann, later roused by the farmer's wife, mistakes Wright's sudden disappearance for a greater interest in the reward money. She is about to marry her middle-aged fiance of long standing when the press agent tips her off on Wright's sincere intentions, since all he wanted to do was scoop the story of his marriage to Ann.

CAST: Ann Miller, William Wright, Robert Williams, Ray Walker, Charles D. Brown, John Eldredge, Eddie Bruce.

CREDITS: Producer, Wallace MacDonald; Director, Will Jason; Screenplay, E. Edwin Moran; Story, Rian James; Assistant Director, Ray Nazarro; Cameraman, Burnett Gueffy.

DIRECTION, Good. PHOTOGRAPHY, Fair.

Christmas in Connecticut

with Barbara Stanwyck, Dennis Morgan

Warner Bros. 101 Mins.

SPIRITED COMEDY GARNERS MANY LAUGHS: STRONG AUDIENCE REACTION INDICATED.

In "Christmas in Connecticut" Barbara Stanwyck and Dennis Morgan are teamed in a spirited comedy filled with highly amusing incidents. The average filmgoer will be adequately entertained by the picture, which has been nicely produced by William Jacobs.

The picture moves along snappily under the direction of Peter Godfrey, who has realized the laugh possibilities to the limit. He has drawn easy-going performances from the players.

Miss Stanwyck's role is that of a writer for a woman magazine who does a home feature. References to a farm, a husband and a baby that are non-existent account for the great popularity of her feature. Imagine her position when Sydney Greenstreet, her publisher, who doesn't know her stuff is fraudulent is struck with the publicity value of the idea of having her entertain Morgan, a convalescent seaman who has never known the joy of home life.

To save the situation Miss Stanwyck induces Reginald Gardiner, a suitor, to let her use his farm, pretends she is his wife and passes off a neighbor's baby as her own. When she falls in love with Morgan she's really in a fix, but the complications are satisfactorily solved.

CAST: Barbara Stanwyck, Dennis Morgan, Sydney Greenstreet, Reginald Gardiner, S. Z. Sakall, Robert Shayne, Una O'Connor, Frank Jenks, Joyce Compton, Dick Elliott, Charles Arnt.

CREDITS: Producer, William Jacobs; Director, Peter Godfrey; Screenplay, Lionel Houser, Adele Commandini; Based on story by Aileen Hamilton.

DIRECTION, Good. PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

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That's the Spirit

with Jack Oakie, Peggy Ryan, Gene Lockhart

Universal 93 Mins.

THIS "DOWN-TO-EARTH FANTASY, LOADED WITH SURPRISE ENTERTAINMENT, IS A BOX OFFICE NATURAL.

The producers, Fessier and Pagano, have injected a solid formula into their original screenplay to lift an unheralded property into the "sleeper" class.

Basting their warm and tasty dish of entertainment with a seasoned group of players whose well directed tintype characterizations add flavor to the era of the high button shoes and the mutton sleeve, the producers have effected a casting job which will mark special plaudits for Irene Ryan, Buster Keaton, Victoria Horne, and Edith Barrett.

Jack Oakie's sympathetic portrayal of a song and dance man who unwittingly becomes involved in the life of beauteous June Vincent, daughter of Gene Lockhart, a pompous, influential banker, breeds charm and adds interest to his versatility.

Highlighting the well-planned production numbers and several nostalgic tunes is the introduction of Johnny Coy, sensational young dancer who shares his dancing chores with talented Peggy Ryan.

The film, sprinkled with several priceless lines, gathers momentum when Oakie is given a seven-day pass to earth after a look-see from heaven into the trials and tribulations being experienced by his wife and daughter, Peggy Ryan, whom he mysteriously left behind. Peggy, the only one who has power to see and talk to her father, is given an opportunity to follow in his footsteps and marries Johnny Coy, son of Andy Devine, Oakie's former partner, despite her grandfather Lockhart's efforts to put the kibosh on her career.

CAST: Peggy Ryan, Jack Oakie, June Vincent, Gene Lockhart, Johnny Coy, Andy Devine, Arthur Treacher, Irene Ryan, Buster Keaton, Victoria Horne, Edith Barrett.

CREDITS: Producers, Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano; Original Screenplay, Michael Fessler and Ernest Pagano; Director, Charles Lamont; Cameraman, Charles Van Enger; Art Directors, John B. Goodman, Richard H. Riedel; Sound, Bernard B. Brown; Set Decorators, Russell A. Gausman, Andrew J. Gilmore; Film Editor, Fred R. Feitshans, Jr.

DIRECTION, Very Good. PHOTOGRAPHY, Excellent.

that New Orleans Blonde Almost Had Johnny FOOLED!
CLAIRE TRE
JOHN
LOWELL
GILMORE · CA
Produced by WILLIAM L.
Screen
HOAGY CARMICHAEL,
singing, playing,
"Memphis In June"

. . . Until he learned that she was the money-mad brains behind bold murder and mutiny!...Sultry romance and thrilling adventure-suspense in RKO's new melodramatic sizzler!

GEORGE RAFT

VOR SIGNE HASSO

NY ANGEL

HOAGY MARGARET

MICHAEL · WYCHERLY

PEREIRA · *Directed by* EDWIN L. MARIN

Play by STEVE FISHER

RKO RADIO PICTURES

R. Pearson, Censor For Alta., Quits

(Continued from Page 1)

ment, it was announced by Honorable A. J. Hooker, provincial secretary, who has jurisdiction over movie matters in Alberta.

Pearson came to Alberta in 1904 as a Methodist minister and held pastorates at Calgary, Edmonton, Red Deer and Lethbridge. Later he became general secretary of the YMCA in Calgary and it was there that he joined the 89th Battalion, CEF, for service in the first world war.

Promoted to the rank of captain, Pearson was wounded at Courcellette in the Battle of the Somme in 1916. Upon his recovery he served overseas with the YMCA for ten months and then he was returned to the army, serving at army corps headquarters. At the end of the war he was with the 9th Canadian Employment Corps at Bonn, Germany.

In 1917 Captain Pearson was elected to the Alberta Legislature as a soldier member and after the war he was returned for a five-year term as an independent member of the Legislature for Calgary.

Moving from Calgary to Lethbridge in 1924, he was pastor of Wesley United Church in that city for four years until he entered the service of the provincial government as chief movie censor on September 1, 1928.

Prominent in Alberta sport circles, Pearson was president of the provincial hockey league, the rugby league, the soccer league and the Provincial Amateur Athletic Union at different times during his career.

He was born in Huron County in 1879 and graduated from the University of Toronto in 1904 with a BA degree before taking up residence in the western province.

He leaves public life after a long career in which he served as a churchman, soldier and legislator before entering the service of the provincial government. Upon the announcement of his retirement he drew the editorial praise of the Edmonton Bulletin.

"A motion picture censor is not largely in the public eye," the editorial stated. "His work is not signed with a flourish. Indeed the summit of his success is achieved when his activities are not discernible at all.

"And yet, with imagination, judgment and a deep sense of moral responsibility, he must maintain constant guard over a form of entertainment and education which has a profound effect on the public mind. Too little censorship can do untold harm to public thinking. Too much censorship can ruin art.

"With tact and efficiency, Mr. Pearson has steered an amazingly effective course between the two."

Pearson and his wife are now leaving Alberta to live in Vancouver, together with their daghter, Mrs. Lloyd Linnell, and their grandson. The Pearsons' son-in-law, an RCAF officer, was killed in action over Europe and is buried just outside Berlin.

Lest We Forget

Speaking of Bill Weiss, as is the case elsewhere in this issue, a letter from his son, Jerry, still overseas with the USA army, contains these lines:

"Yesterday I saw Dachau. This was an experience I will never forget. I have seen death in the field, but it was nothing like the scene of scientific, economical and brutal murder which was Dachau. In this camp I saw the chambers in which 200 to 300 persons were gassed daily, bones of bodies piled to huge heights, rooms in which the stink of death was so strong it nauseated you. Thousands were butchered in this camp. The only consolation was the sight of the SS camp commandant chained in his room stark naked awaiting his too-lenient execution, for all to see."

The poison of racial and religious antagonism is creeping into the unlikeliest places and increased vigilance on the part of those who are in a position to prevent it should be a duty.

* * *

Short Throws

Andy "Lefty" Sinclair is back at Emp-U after several years in the navy . . . Mr. and Mrs. Ben Geldsaler celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary recently and a good many of their friends in the trade were present to congratulate them . . . Desire for theatres by the inhabitants of rural communities overlooked by trade men or considered too small has led to civic bodies being formed, which will sell shares. Folks are going to have their entertainment, come what may . . . It was nice to read that a Canadian, Fletcher Markle, Winnipeg-born and an RCAF veteran, won one of those $1,500 literary fellowships offered by 20th-Fox. . . . Someone was mailing Tom Daley of the Imperial a batch of useless gasoline coupons every day as a gag. Investigation revealed that it was Sam Fingold, partner of the Quiet Dale (Ralph) and the Bounding Main (Dick). It's my opinion that such tactics are designed to unnerve Daley for the next golf game . . . Ralph Tiede, Community, Welland, gave the kids fan photos and had to run an extra Tuesday matinee to accomodate the crowds . . . Got to chatting with a blind war veteran the other day and he says the biggest street hazard for fellows like himself are post-boxes that hang from posts. Always running into them . . . The after-midnight stag for Curly Posen, who resigned from the Metro management to become supervisor of an Ohio chain, was fun. Al Perly was toastmaster and he introduced Ray Allen, Bill Weiss, Pete Budd, Harry Goldhar, Harry Lester, each of whom reviewed some aspect of Curly's career. The most humorous comments on Curley were made by Ray Allen, through and by whom he was employed for years. Ray revealed that he had dropped into a hand laundry and that the guy in charge, on hearing his name, said that he was a frustrated actor. That was Curly, who, following Ray's sponsorship, became an emcee and later an orchestra conductor . . . While at the Century, Kitchener, Maurice Coste collected 68,000 books and magazines for armed services reading and raised $1,300 jointly with the Legion for the Sick Children's Hospital.

Another 'Bounty'

Clark Gable wil play the lead in MGM's "Christian of the Bounty," sequel to "Mutiny on the Bounty."

Win Barron Sick, At St. Michael's

Win Barron, Paramount's promotion representative in Canada and commentator for its Canadian newsreel, is ill in St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto, with a throat ailment.

He is one of the nicest guys in our neighborhood, everyone agrees, and we all miss his friendliness on those days when he is home. Win has to hop to New York every week for the newsreel sound track job, come any kind of weather and a fellow gets plenty of chances to pick something up that way.

Real Fire Danger At NFB Studios

(Continued from Page 1)

continued workers here in a place where, one day, there will be a really serious fire and the probable loss of many lives."

A short circuit in the generator board of the control room caused a flash fire of considerable intensity and resulted in injury to two NFB employees. Miss Winifred Thompson sustained a badly burned hand and arm and Mrs. Winona Pulleyblank was overcome by the fumes.

The government has announced that it will erect new studios for the NFB.

B & L Wins Ruling Against Odeon Sale

Odeon Theatres of Canada Limited have been prevented from taking possession of the Roseland and Academy theatres, New Glasgow, NB, through the sustaining of an injunction obtained by B & L Theatres against the deal.

Abe Garson, Odeon's Maritime head, and the estate of the late N. W. Mason have been ordered not to transfer any of the stock in the Roseland Theatre Company, original holder of the theatres, until the matter comes up for trial in the fall.

The dispute over ownership and sale of the theatres first arose between Mason, who sold his interests to B & L, and Frank Sobey and other stockholders. An accord was reached out of court and the theatres were sold to Odeon. This brought the protests of B & L, who are trying to establish a prior claim.

FOTO-NITE
NOVEL ENTERTAINING BUILDS GOOD WILL CREATES NEW PATRONAGE

Here Is What Foto-Nite Does!

Rio, Sudbury started July 17th — triple average business. Radar, Deseronto started August 14th — triple average business. Stanley, Stouffville started August 15th — triple average business.

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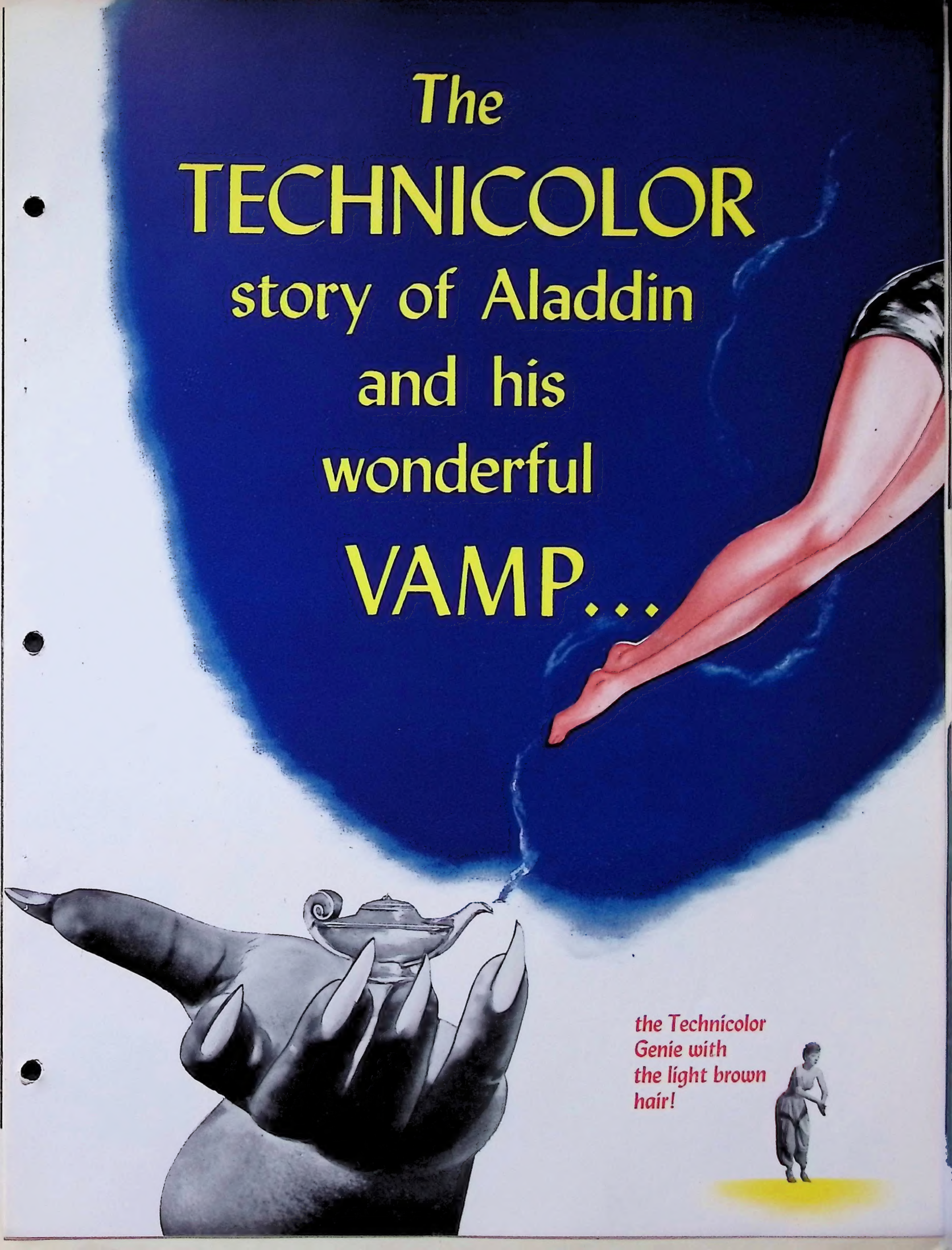
The TECHNICOLOR story of Aladdin and his wonderful VAMP...



the Technicolor Genie with the light brown hair!

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Beware Inflation Warns Ilsley

Canadians were told by Hon. J. L. Ilsley, minister of finance, and Donald Gordon, chairman of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board, recently in a Dominion-wide broadcast that victory is "just the beginning of the end." Because of the great demand for civilian goods which will take time to produce the danger of sharply rising prices is still great. Price control is still urgently needed and must be maintained for some time to come. The continuance of rationing of some foodstuffs is imperative to provide for fair distribution of supplies to Canadian citizens in the face of reduced production and the most pressing needs of Canada's allies and of liberated areas.

To combat the dangers of postwar inflationary pressures the government policy with regard to abolishing wartime controls will continue to safeguard the stabilization program "until its full benefits can be reaped in a smoother, more rapid transition to a prosperous peacetime economy," stated Mr. Ilsley.

"So long as necessities are in short supply and so long as many thousands of people are eagerly looking for articles that have been off the market in the last few years the removal of price control could not fail to touch off a sharp inflationary rise in prices," warned Mr. Gordon.

"Now is the time to ensure that the fruits of a hard-earned victory are not lost in the disillusionment and heartbreak of a postwar economic collapse," Mr. Ilsley said. "The demobilization and proper re-establishment of our fighting forces and our war workers cannot be accomplished if domestic stability be lost. While we rejoice in victory, let us keep our heads and remember that organized and intelligent effort are absolutely vital if we are to win the peace, as we have won the war."

Both speakers stressed that wherever possible controls have been and will continue to be relaxed to speed reconversion to production of civilian goods. Retention of some controls, particularly in textiles, foods and other fields of short supply to safeguard an orderly distribution of new and existing civilian goods, is in line with Canada's wartime anti-inflationary policy.

Kalmenson Here

Ben Kalmenson, general sales manager of Warners, and his assistant, Arthur Sachson were in Toronto last week to talk with Haskell Masters, WB division chief.

Weiss, Co-Op Leader, Has Been Around

(Continued from Page 1)

the managing director of what is the most startling development in Ontario exhibition in many years has had supervision, at one time or another, of every Odeon theatre as far east as Halifax. Prior to joining Odeon Weiss was interested in the construction and management of the Colony and Grant theatres, Toronto.

Weiss has been more or less marking time on the domestic industry scene compared with his activities in Ohio and Kentucky. He left Toronto in 1923 and during part of that year and 1924 was active in the Independent exchange field in Cleveland and Cincinnati. After five years in distribution as an Independent he switched to exhibition, owning and operating seven Independent theatres in Ohio.

Bill returned to Toronto in 1937 and rejoined his family. The Weiss boys—Morris, Bill, Milton and Herb—are well known locally. Morris, who is interested in Snowdon Theatres, is a brother-in-law of Jules Levey, ex-Toronto man who left a successful distribution career to become a leading Independent producer.

Bill Weiss was secretary of the Cleveland Film Board of Trade and on the Board of Arbitration. Some of the lads who were his colleagues in that place at that time are names in the news now — Leo Devaney, head of RKO in Canada; Norman Moray, top man of shorts for Warners; Gradwell Sears, vice-president of United Artists and in charge of distribution; Carl Leserman, general sales manager of United Artists; Jules Levey and Ward Scott. It would seem that Bill has mixed in high-class company on both the Indie and circuit sides of the game. There are few men with that sort of experience and the Allied was lucky to get him.

Added to all that, Bill Weiss enjoys a reputation for candor and honesty and is singularly fitted to represent a considerable number of business men—for each with the other and all with the industry.

The Allied Co-Operative is amply financed, he says. He believes in the Independent and thinks that he must take modern measures based on working together to be assured a fair share of the post-war theatre field. The big boys are busy expanding while the Independent is busy holding his own. Comparitive progress, according to Weiss, can come only through keeping pace in comfort and quality and the Independents must pool their strength to make that possible. Much of what the circuits have accomplished has been made possible through purchasing power and central authority. This can be done privately or through a co-operative. The exhibitor who remains by himself isn't going to find the same protection that the ones will get who banded together.

Bill Weiss' choice of Joe Meyers, another popular veteran, as his assistant and chief booker, will meet favor with the Independents. Joe, always giving and inspiring a smile, has made many friends since he came to Toronto in 1941 and shortly after joined Odeon Theatres as a booker.

Joe has been around and about in the Canadian industry and there is little about picture problems in Independent houses that he doesn't know. He got into the business 26 years ago in Winnipeg with Peerless, then soon joined United Artists. He rose to manager of the Winnipeg branch, a post he held for years.

He subsequently resigned and in 1933 became Calgary and Winnipeg inter-office salesman for RKO. In 1936 he joined the Winnipeg branch of Regal Films as salesman and in 1938 was appointed manager. In 1934 he resigned due to ill health, coming to Toronto and joining Odeon.

Both Bill and Joe know the business thoroughly and should get Allied Co-Operative under way in fine style.

Eagle-Lion Offers Three in T'color

Three of the first four pictures announced as part of Eagle-Lion's schedule of 20 for the season are in Technicolor. These are:

"Men of Two Worlds," starring Phyllis Calvery, Eric Portman and a cast of hundreds.

"London Town," produced by Welsley Ruggles.

"A Matter of Life and Death," produced by Michael Powell, starring David Niven, Raymond Massey and Kim Hunter.

The fourth film, in black and white, is the Noel Coward Cineguid Production "Brief Encounter," starring Celia Johnston, Trevor Howard and Sammy Holloway.

Announcement of the complete program will be made shortly. Several of the films are Rank's challenge to Hollywood and are aimed to complete with the best Hollywood productions, not only in Canada but in the USA.

LEO DEVANEY

General manager of RKO in Canada, who will preside over the Dominion sales sessions of the company, to be held at the Windsor Hotel, Montreal, September 9 to 13. Ned Depinet, president, and other executives will attend.

Airman Returns to Post With Perkins

L. M. Bleakley, recently discharged from the RCAF with the rank of flying officer, has returned to his former position as general manager of Perkins Electric Limited, Montreal.

Enlisting in the RCAF in June 1942, Bleakley was later attached to the RAF and saw service in Britain, Iceland. The Azores, North Africa, Italy, Palestine, India and Ceylon.

'Dillinger' Again

Monogram's "Dillinger" broke the all-time record at the Plaza, Vancouver and did powerful business at the Snowden, Montreal.

NFB to Issue New Monthly Mag

Following the discontinuance of its National Film Board News, the National Film Board will publish a 24-page illustrated magazine entitled N.F.B. In it will be incorporated such publications as Rural Route, Community News, Labour's Film Forum and Fighting Films.

Associate editor is Eva Geisel.

'1001 Nights' Big

Columbia's "One Thousand and One Nights," Technicolor extravaganza starring Cornel Wilde and featuring Phil Silvers, never funnier, is doing Believe It Or Not business. In its initial runs business has exceeded that of the record-breaking "A Song to Remember."

The Reviews of "The Great

By the tradepapers, with marginal notes by B. CROSBY

Ah, such good, good, news!

Bing Crosby Productions makes its bow with an extremely diverting picture that stands to prosper beyond the ordinary. Dealing with one of the fabulous names of the world of fisticuffs, the film is certain to be red meat for the men. The patronage of the women is accounted for by the marked attention given to the romantic side of Sullivan's life. Not to be overlooked is the prestige of the Crosby name. Rated fine entertainment of wide appeal. —FILM DAILY

NO, it's not Hope —read on

I blush - I really do!

Since "The Great John L." is the first entrant to sport the colors of Bing Crosby Productions, exhibitors may naturally ask what gives. The answer is that the film, a strong contender, seems assured of a fast track in the boxoffice sweepstakes and is an odds-on-favorite to finish well up in the big money.

I'd like to be able to say this about another enterprise I'm fond of!

As the Boston Strong Boy, Greg McClure will appeal to men and women alike. In addition to looking the part physically, the boy can really act.

Offers women the lure of a beautiful love story. —M. P. DAILY

Yep, Greg sure gets 'em - they swoon all over the place. Hope had to be revived three times!

In his first independent production, Bing Crosby comes out with both fists swinging through a dramatization of the life of John L. Sullivan. When the pic is released it should be a great day all around, for the Irish as well as for the houses than run it. It's straight boff from start to finish. Greg McClure as Sullivan is an absolute find. —VARIETY

Take care, Sinatra, take care!

That's Varietyese for bang up boxoffice!

Should score a clean cut kayo as escape stuff with the paying customers. Bing Crosby's first venture in the production field is a potpourri of good boxoffice values. Greg McClure makes an auspicious debut in the title role. The song sequences are slickly staged and easy on the ear. "The Great John L." is definitely earmarked boxoffice! —HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

A lively action film with romantic overtones of boyhood love and an unhappy marriage as a subtle defense of the fantastic brawling of the heavyweight champion. There is enough boxing to satisfy the men, sufficient love interest to appeal to women. Linda Darnell and Barbara Britton are beautiful. —BOXOFFICE

A pleasing show that ought to deliver satisfaction for audiences at large, and encourage the new Crosby company to further production efforts. —M. P. HERALD

Handsomely mounted, carefully and deftly directed production. Greg McClure is delightful in the ring sequences where his magnificent physique and obvious skill with his hands make him a most convincing John L. Sullivan. His physical development makes all other screen athletes look puny. —SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW

Has plenty of boxoffice punch. A piece of entertainment that is richly flavored, brimming over with a sense of life and interest holding all the way. Will appeal alike to men and women. —THE INDEPENDENT

John L."

I wonder, I wonder!

Wait till you hear Linda Darnell do "A Perfect Gentleman" -its tres, tres smooth!

You're not kidding- it'll leave you more breathless than Hope after his opening bon mots on his radio show!

Hope pitched his tent on the set with the hope of pitching woo — but the gals gave Prow-puss the go by!

Sinatra'll boil at this!

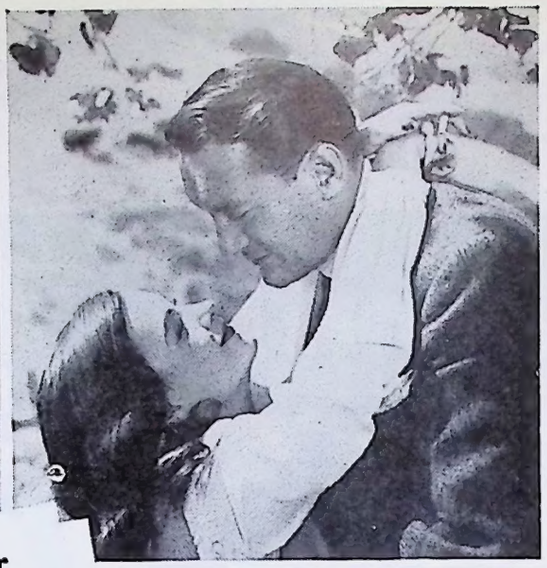
Which covers every body except children and babies and they'll love it!

The Gay Nineties... when romance and adventure ran riot... when John L. Sullivan's name was on everyone's lips and "Sweet Sixteen" was America's theme song.
BING CROSBY PRODUCTIONS presents
"THE GREAT JOHN L."
The Fabulous Story of the Boston Strong Boy
starring
LINDA DARNELL · BARBARA BRITTON
and introducing GREG McCLURE as "John L. Sullivan"
OTTO KRUGER · WALLACE FORD · GEORGE MATHEWS · ROBERT BARRAT
LEE SULLIVAN as "Mickey"
Original Screen Play by James Edward Grant
Produced by FRANK R. MASTROLY and JAMES EDWARD GRANT
Directed by FRANK TUTTLE · Released thru United Artists

TRANSCRIPTIONS THAT ARE TERRIFIC!

"The Great John L." has a set of one and five minute radio platters for local use that have never been matched in motion picture history! These entertaining selling discs feature Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, Frank Sinatra, Frances Langford and Linda Darnell . . . doing their stuff just as they do it on the highest priced radio programs on the air! It's top spot selling at its best!

IT'S GREAT FROM U.A.

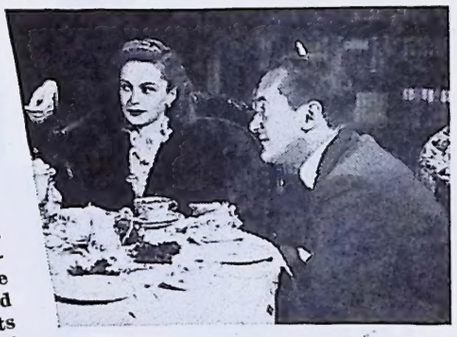


The Strange Affair Of 'Uncle Harry'

UNIVERSAL'S "The Strange Affair of Uncle Harry" is a murder melodrama with a trick ending which will pay ample boxoffice dividends.

The film tells the story of a man who kills one of his sisters by mistake when he meant to murder the other one, who was trying to thwart his plans to get married. The plot is complicated, with the living sister being convicted of the murder, and the brother finds that he has committed the perfect crime when his attempts to confess his guilt are discredited by the authorities.

George Sanders, Geraldine Fitzgerald and Ella Raines give excelent performances in the leading roles, with Sarah Allgood, Moyna MacGill and Harry Von Zell also playing effectively.



16 Mm. Films Make Fast Progress

Major Studios Becoming Aware of Vast Possibilities of Small-Gauge Field In Non-Theatrical and Show Sides

Creation of an international organization by MGM for the distribution of theatrical 16 mm. films is the first major acknowledgment of the existence of that vast and lucrative field by Hollywood's leading studio and a move that will enhance the prestige of that division of exhibition. From January 1, 1946, on every MGM release will have its 16 mm. counterpart and a separate staff of 16 mm. specialists will be added to each office.

Since these plans in the 16 mm. field were made public it has been announced further by MGM that the new 16 mm. division is strictly a non-United States, non-Canada distribution venture and prospects of domestic distribution are not in any way being considered at the present time.

In announcing MGM's program in the small-guage field, Arthur M. Loew, president of Loew's International Corporation, stated that he felt that the far greater use of 16 mm. pictures would not in any way curtail 35 mm. production, but would merely amplify it.

It also has been pointed out that the showing of narrow guage entertainment films will not compete with the showing of 35 mm. films abroad but will rather be the means of bringing the latest stars and pictures to isolated communities and towns too small to support a regular movie theatre. This will be done through the use of mobile projector units.

Latest development in exhibition is the disclosure that a number of new theatres to be erected in the state of Michigan will have facilities for the showing of both 16 and 35 mm. films.

In Canada MGM 16 mm. films are not distributed commercially but only to camps through Hanson 16 mm. Films. Warners, 20th Century-Fox and United Artists do not sell to standard theatres but confine distribution to army camps. Paramount and RKO 16 mm. features and shorts are distributed commercially through General Films, while Sovereign Films sells the small-guage trade Columbia, Universal and Eagle-Lion product. Hanson 16 mm. Films handles Monogram and Alliance for trade as well as army exhibitors.

The 16 mm. picture is changing fast and the production of films exclusively in 16 mm. by non-members of the Hays Office may cause the present 10 mile zone to be wiped out. If the other major companies are attracted to the 16 mm. field, a new set of rules will spring up and it is not unlikely that leading 35 mm. circuits will dabble in the field they formerly looked down upon.

Planet Pictures is producing "Jeep Herders" for fall release and their future production program includes two westerns, six comedies, two mysteries, 20 musicals and 12 feature pictures. The newly formed Video Productions will turn out eight kodakchrome outdoor spectacles a year in 16 mm. and Hollywood Colorfilm Corporation is also planning small-guage entertainment films.

The entertainment film is the newest undertaking in original narrow-guage movies but there has been available for some time 16 mm. films on a wide variety of subjects including newsreels, cartoons, name band shorts and documentaries in both original and reprint form, as well as feature picture reprints.

However, the greatest impetus in 16 mm. has been in the educational and instructional field. Associated Screen News, leading producer of such films, is busier than ever. Vancouver Motion Pictures Limited is also in the field. These companies will be joined in this field by Audio Pictures and the Nathanson-Rank company formed under Frank O'Byrne and awaiting completion of its studios.

Among other production plans in 16 mm. Warner Brothers has announced that it will enter the commercial field with the making of small-gauge industrial films to order after January 1, 1946. Industrial and educational 16 mm. films will also be turned out by the newly reorganized Audio Pictures Limited, in Canada, and by Hollywood Colorfilm in the USA. And March of Time plans to produce a series of 16 mm. films to be known as the Forum Edition.

MGM's plans for small-guage films also include the production of all types of educational subjects for classroom and training use. These will be made in association with specialists in modern visual education and will embrace such fields as geography, chemistry, physics and history.

This new crop of narrow-guage films will find no lack of projectors on which to run, theatres and other locations in which to be shown or audiences to entertain, according to all the latest indications.

In the USA it is reported that there are 70,000 16 mm. projecters in use and at an early date there will also be new equipment available for this type of film showing both in Canada and across the border. It has already been announced that the Canadian Motion Sound Company will begin producing the first 16 mm. sound projectors to be manufactured in Canada when its plant at Leaside, Ontario, goes into operation in the fall. And in the USA, General Precision Instrument is also planning to manufacture narrow-guage projectors.

There is also a great deal of new activity in the distribution and exhibition end of the 16 mm. field. Ross Federal has already established 31 offices in the USA where film libraries will be maintained and projection equipment and supplies will be distributed. George Hirliman, head of International Theatrical & Television Corporation is planning to establish 30 distribution exchanges and it has been reported that he also intends to produce 16 mm. entertainment films.

In the exhibition and it is reported that Frank Lawrence, production veteran, is planning to set up an organization which may build as many as 5,000 theatres seating 250 to 450, for the showing of 16 mm. commercial and industrial films in the USA. Some theatres will be built in existing properties such as stores and garages while others will be mobile units installed in auto trailers.

Advertising agencies are organizing motion picture production departments and making short subjects of their sponsored radio programs for the Lawrence type of exhibition.

Main factor behind all these reported plans and new projects involving narrow-guage films is, of course, the greatly increased interest in motion pictures in general. According to reliable sources audience potential for 16 mm. films in the USA is placed at 10,000,000 and there are proportionate estimates for Canada. Showings in the armed forces and by the National Film Board, operating mobile units, have brought about a widespread interest in 16 mm. movies in the Dominion and there is a growing demand from schools, churches, trade unions and other organizations for educational and industrial films of this kind.

Any community of 500 persons is a profitable stopping place for a commercial travelling unit, say the 16 mm. men. Installation of prefabricated theatres in many localities should also add impetus to 16 mm. exhibition.

PATRICIA ROC

First of the new lend-lease stars involved in an international talent exchange deal between the Rank group in London and Hollywood is the British beauty, Patricia Roc, who arrived in USA by clipper this week. Following her starring role in "Madonna of the Seven Moons" in Britain, she is to appear in Walter Wanger's Technicolor production "Canyon Passage". The deal was arranged with Arthur Rank by Nate J. Blumberg, president of Universal.

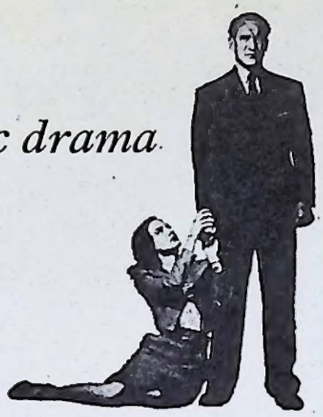
Repub Buys Planes For Transportation

Republic will buy a six-place helicopter, a 21-place passenger plane and two heavy cargo planes as soon as the American Government authorizes civilian plane deliveries. Purchase of the four airplanes, to be used for location transportation, was approved by Herbert J. Yates, studio president.

The helicopter will be used for spotting location sites and the larger planes to transport the cast, crew and equipment.

Arrangements are now being made by the studio to construct a landing field for the helicopter and to obtain an airstrip for the other planes.

"Such cyclonic drama



may well start a cycle"

There is always a big market for something unusual on the screen, especially when the unusual material is so well produced.

Universal is quite proud of the picture "Uncle Harry" which is made from the play that shocked Broadway.

There hasn't been a picture like "Uncle Harry," but we have no doubt its success will encourage the making of similar ones. Pictures like "Uncle Harry" create cycles.

CHARLES K. FELDMAN presents
The Strange Affair of
"UNCLE HARRY"
starring
GEORGE SANDERS
GERALDINE FITZGERALD
ELLA RAINES
with MOYNA MACGILL • SARA ALLGOOD • HARRY VON ZELL • Screenplay by Stephen Longstreet
Adaptation by Keith Winter • From the Play by Thomas Job • As Produced on the Stage by Clifford Hayman
Directed by ROBERT SIODMAK
Produced by JOAN HARRISON
Executive Producer: MILTON H. FELD
A UNIVERSAL RELEASE
UNIVERSAL PICTURES

"Uncle Harry" is a fine boxoffice picture from Empire-Universal Films Limited.